such programmes will continue to be governed by them.

(b) and (c) The units covered by the Phased Manufacturing Programme continue to get import-duty concessions in terms of the applicable custom notifications in force for manufacture of goods in accordance with suh manfacturing programme.

Effect of import compression measures on industry

3167. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the over all effect of the import compression measures on the industry initiated in 1990-91 and continued during the current year; and

(b) whether Government propose to continue these measures and for how long?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The shortage of imported raw material, components, spares and capital goods, as a result of import compression measures, contributed among other factors, to a declaration in industrial growth rate.

(b) Since February, 1992, the requirement of cash margin for imports and the levy of surcharge of 25 per cent on the rate of interest charged on import finance by Banks have been withdrawn. Besides, with the elimination of system of Import Licensing and the provision for import of most of industrial inputs and capital goods without any restriction except for a small Negative List of Items, as per Export & Import Policy, 1992-97, the cut and restrictions on imports imposed earlier, have also been lifted.

Production of Cement

3168. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total production of cement for the year ended 31st March, 1992;

(b) what was the production in private and public sectors during this period;

(c) what is the trend of cement prices during the current year;

(d) what is the targetted production of cement for the current year; and

(e) what is the average annual demand of cement in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The total production of cement for the year ended 31st March, 1992 was 54.01 million M.T.

The total production of the private and public sector during this period was 48.82 million M.T. and 5.19 million M.T. respectively.

(c) A Statement is annexed.

[*See* Appendix CLXIV, Annexure No. 53]

(d) The targetted production of cement during the current year is 60 million M.T.

(e) The average annual demand of cement in the country during the current year is expected to be around 60 million M.T.

Prompt payment of small industries bills

3169. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced suitable legislations to ensure prompt payment of small industries bills, as announced in the new policy measures for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises, in the Parliament on 6th August, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the prospective legislations in this regard proposed for near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir. However, a proposal for legislation to ensure prompt payment of small industries bills is under consideration of Govt.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Technology Development Cell in Small Industries Development Organisation

3170. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Technology Development Cell has been set up in the Small Industries Development Organisation;

(b) what is the Constitution of this Cell and what are its functions; and

(c) what has been the performance of this Cell so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

Payment to ex-employees of P.S.Us.

3171. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer of Unstarred Question 3214 and 1528 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th December, 1991 and 23rd July, 1992 respectively and state:

(a) whether Government propose to ensure that the Central Public Sector Undertakings under hte Department of Heavy Industry make payments without any further delay to their ex-employees who have been denied payments on account of deay in issuing Government order together with amount of interest as is payable to the ex-empoyees on late disbursement of Provident Fund and other statutory payments; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take for avoiding recurrence of such lapses in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Since the informaiton regarding the number of cases where payments have been delayed to the ex-employees in rspect of retirement benefits is not radily available, the same would be collected and placed on the Table of the House.

Allotment of distribution on agencies/ service stations of Maruti Udyog Ltd.

3172. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of distribution agencies/ service stations of Maruti Udyog Ltd. allotted so far during the financial year 1991-92;

(b) the number of agencies/service stations out of these which have been allotted to the SC/ST candidates;

(c) the number of directors on the Board of Maruti Udyog Limited; and

(d) the number of such directors belonging to SC and ST communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) No dealership was allotted during 1991-92. The number of Maruti Authorised Service Stations allotted during this period was 153.

(b) Informaiton is being collected.

(c) At present there are eight Directors on the Board of Maruti Udyog Limited.

(d) There is no SC/ST Director in the Board of Maruti Udyog Limited.